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Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Information for Parents "It Takes Two to Talk"

The Hanen Programme for Parents



You have been invited to attend the Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) group **"It Takes Two to Talk"** – the Hanen Program for Parents. This leaflet explains the aims of the Hanen Group.

"I have just completed It Takes Two to Talk. What a difference this has made to the quality of life for my little girl. She is more confident and will initiate a conversation and join in activities. Several weeks ago she would not have done so. The skills I have learned through the Hanen Program I will have for life and I know I will be able to help my three children now and in the future. They will no longer have to feel frustrated when communicating with me. Thank you Hanen. You have changed my life and my child's."

A Parent in the UK

What is the Hanen Program?

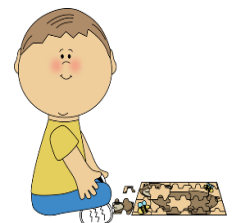
The Hanen Program helps you learn about your child's communication and how best to help develop their speech, language and communication. The group is made up of other parents who also have young children with communication difficulties.

Will my child come with me?

No. The Hanen Group is for parents and carers only. We will see your child with you at the home visits.

How often will I need to attend the Hanen Group?

You will need to attend four group sessions that last for about two hours each. We will also come to your house two or three times to video your child playing with you for five minutes and talk about strategies you are using.





Why do you need to video us?

The video is a way of showing you the progress your child has made and the strategies covered in the group. It will not be shown in front of the other parents unless you are happy for us to do so. You will be asked to complete a consent form to agree to us videoing you.

What will be expected of me in the Hanen Group?

You will attend four group sessions covering strategies to help their communication development. Following each session you will practise the ideas with your child (this involves playing with your child) and think about how it went. When your child has been videoed you will watch it back with the therapist and talk together about how you and your child played.

What will I learn from the Hanen Program?

The Hanen Program is proven to help parents support communication development. It is not about tackling behaviour, though as a child learns to communicate better they may be less frustrated and their behaviour may improve as a result.



You will learn about the development of communication, how and why your child communicates and the stage they are at, as well as practical strategies and techniques. This will help you tune in to your child's communication and to set realistic goals to support their development.



Does this mean my child will not have individual speech and language therapy?

You will be providing your child with therapy by using the Hanen strategies in everyday life.

After the Hanen Program, your child may have an individual appointment with a therapist to review their progress. If your child needs further therapy they may be invited to attend a group with other children who have similar difficulties or may be seen for individual therapy, according to their needs.



Sometimes it might not be the right time for you (or your child) to commit to speech and language therapy for your own personal reasons. Please be honest about this and be aware that if you do not attend appointments without letting us know you will be discharged.

For further information please contact:

Speech and Language Therapy Service
Room 102
Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Headquarters Building
St Cadoc's Hospital
Lodge Road
Caerleon
NP18 3XQ

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Tel: **01633 431633**

(8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday)

or, visit our website at:

<http://www.sltgwentabhb.wales.nhs.uk>

